

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/714,778

Examiner

Dimple N. Bodawala

Applicant(s)

ALLEN ET AL.

Art Unit

1722

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE, filed on July 18, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23 and 30-37.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


YOGENDRA N. GUPTA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-23 and 30-37 are allowed.

Claims 24-29 are cancelled.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of records fails to teach or suggest a drawing device for attenuating a plurality of filament received from a spin pack of a melt spinning apparatus and a spun bonding apparatus for depositing filaments on a collector to form a non woven web as defined in the claims of the instant application.

The closet prior art Haynes et al. (U S Patent No. 6,709,623) discloses an apparatus for making nonwoven web with all structural limitations. It further teaches that the each of the teeth (303) has an orientation that is rotated to the cross machined direction, which precludes the surfaces of the teeth (301) being parallel to the cross-machine direction, and furthermore each of side surfaces of the teeth has an orientation that is significantly rotated relative to the cross machine direction, which precludes the side surface of the teeth (301) being perpendicular to the cross machine direction.

Therefore, the closet prior art Haynes fails to teach or suggest "a first surface extending between the first and second side edges parallel with the cross machine direction, and second and third surfaces extending from the

first and second side edges perpendicular to the cross machine direction”, “a fourth surface extending between the third and fourth side edges parallel with the cross machine direction” and “the second and third surfaces of each of said plurality of guides extend to the third and fourth edges of each of said second plurality of guides” as defined in claims 1 and 12; furthermore, “each of said plurality of guides having a plurality of facets inclined at different angles relative to the downward direction” as recited in claims 8 and 20; furthermore, “manifold adapted to apply a high velocity flow of air in the slotted passageway to impinge the filaments”, “the guides aligned in a row proximate to the outlet of a drawing device that receives filaments from spin pack” and “plurality of guides having an angle relative to said discharge direction that progressively varies across a width of said outlet” as defined in claims 10, 22, 32, and 36; furthermore “each of said plurality of guides including a surface having an increasing angle of inclination relative to the downward direction with increasing distance from the outlet” as defined in claim 32; and furthermore “the first angle is a positive declination angle relative to the plane along the downward direction and said second angle is negative declination angle relative to the plane along the downward direction” as defined in claims 33 and 36.

Nor does there appear to be any reason in this reference, or combined with any of the other prior art of record, to modify the devices to result in such a combination of features.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

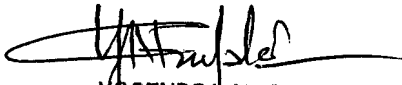
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dimple N. Bodawala whose telephone number is (571) 272-6455. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday at 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Yogendra N. Gupta can be reached on (571) 272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1722

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DNB



YOGENDRA N. GUPTA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700